



Biden gets blamed by Harris allies for the vice president's resounding loss to Trump

President Joe Biden after speaking in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington, Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024.

Associated Press
Page 2

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Biden gets blamed by Harris allies for the vice president's resounding loss to Trump

From Front

By **AAMER MADHANI**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Joe Biden's name wasn't on the ballot, but history will likely remember Kamala Harris' resounding defeat as his loss too.

As Democrats pick up the pieces after President-elect Donald Trump's decisive victory, some of the vice president's backers are expressing frustration that Biden's decision to seek reelection until this summer — despite long-standing voter concerns about his age and unease about post-pandemic inflation as well as the U.S.-Mexico border — all but sealed his party's surrender of the White House. "The biggest onus of this loss is on President Biden," said Andrew Yang, who ran against Biden in 2020 for the Democratic nomination and endorsed Harris' unsuccessful run. "If he had stepped down in January instead of July, we may be in a very different place."

Biden will leave office after leading the United States out of the worst pandemic in a century, galvanizing international support for Ukraine after Russia's invasion and passing a \$1 trillion infrastructure bill that will affect communities for years to come. But having run four years ago against Trump to "restore the soul of the country," Biden will make way after just one term for his immediate predecessor, who overcame two impeachments, a felony conviction and an insurrection launched by his supporters. Trump has pledged to radically reshape the federal government and roll back many of Biden's priorities. "Maybe in 20 or 30 years, history will remember Biden for some of these achieve-



Vice President Kamala Harris listens as President Joe Biden speaks about distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, in the East Room of the White House, May 17, 2021, in Washington.

ments," said Thom Reilly, co-director of the Center for an Independent and Sustainable Democracy at Arizona State University. "But in the shorter term, I don't know he escapes the legacy of being the president who beat Donald Trump only to usher in another Donald Trump administration four years later." Biden on Thursday avoided directly addressing the electorate's seeming repudiation of his presidency. Instead, he noted that Americans will feel the effects of the administration's signature legislative efforts for years to come.

"Don't forget all that we accomplished," Biden said in a brief Rose Garden address attended by Cabinet members and top aides but not by Harris. "It's been a historic presidency — not because I am president but because of what we've done. What you've done."

He issued a statement shortly after Harris delivered her concession speech Wednesday,

praising her for running an "historic campaign" under "extraordinary circumstances."

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said Democrats got caught up in a wave of anti-incumbency in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic that upturned governments in democracies around the globe irrespective of ideology. She did not directly respond to questions about criticism that Biden waited too long to bow out.

"He believed he made the right decision," Jean-Pierre said at her daily briefing.

Only about 4 in 10 voters in the 2024 presidential election approved of how Biden handled his job as president, according to AP VoteCast, a survey of more than 120,000 voters nationwide. Roughly 6 in 10 disapproved, and Donald Trump won a strong majority of those voters who were dissatisfied with Biden. Some high-ranking Democrats, including three advisers

to the Harris campaign, expressed deep frustration with Biden for failing to recognize earlier in the election cycle that he was not up to the challenge. The advisers spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to comment publicly. Biden, 81, ended his reelection campaign in July, weeks after an abysmal debate performance sent his party into a spiral and raised questions about whether he still had the mental acuity and stamina to serve as a credible nominee.

But polling long beforehand showed that many Americans worried about his age. Some 77% of Americans said in August 2023 that Biden was too old to be effective for four more years, according to a poll by the AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs.

The president bowed out on July 21 after getting not-so-subtle nudges from Democratic Party powers, including former President Barack Obama and former House

Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California. Biden endorsed Harris and handed over his campaign operation to her. Massachusetts Rep. Seth Moulton, one of several Democratic lawmakers who publicly pressed Biden to step aside this summer, said Thursday on CNN that the Democratic Party "would have been much better off" if Biden had left the race earlier. Yang argued that Democratic Party leaders also deserve blame for taking too long to push out Biden. With few exceptions, most notably Minnesota Rep. Dean Phillips, Democrats shied away talking publicly about Biden's age. "Why was this not coming from any Democratic leaders?" Yang said. "It's a lack of courage and independence and an excess of careerism, if I just keep my mouth shut, we'll just keep on trucking along."

The campaign was also saddled by anger among some Arab American and young voters over its approach to Israel's conflicts in Gaza and Lebanon. Sen. Bernie Sanders, an ally of Biden and Harris, said in a statement that Democrats lost the thread on working-class Americans' concerns.

"Will the big money interests and well-paid consultants who control the Democratic Party learn any real lessons from this disastrous campaign?" the Vermont independent said. "Will they understand the pain and political alienation that tens of millions of Americans are experiencing?"

Democratic National Committee Chair Jaime Harrison took to social media Thursday to push back on Sanders' critique, saying that Biden was "the most-pro worker President of my lifetime." □

Associated Press

Plea deals revived for alleged 9/11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and others

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A military judge has ruled that plea agreements struck by alleged Sept. 11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and two co-defendants are valid, voiding an order by Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin to throw out the deals, a government official said. The official spoke on condition of anonymity Wednesday because the order by the judge, Air Force Col. Matthew McCall, has not yet been posted publicly or officially announced.

Unless government prosecutors or others attempt to challenge the plea deals again, McCall's ruling means that the three 9/11 defendants before long could enter guilty pleas in the U.S. military courtroom at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, taking a dramatic step toward wrapping up the long-running and legally troubled government prosecution in one of the deadliest attacks on the United States.

The plea agreements would



Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin smiles during a joint press briefing with South Korean Defense Minister Kim Yong Hyun at the Pentagon on Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2024 in Washington.

Associated Press

spare Mohammed and two co-defendants, Walid bin Attash and Mustafa al-Hawsawi, the risk of the death penalty in exchange for the guilty pleas.

Government prosecutors had negotiated the deals with defense attorneys under government auspices, and the top official for the military

commission at the Guantanamo Bay naval base had approved the agreements. The plea deals in the Sept. 11, 2001, al-Qaida attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people spurred immediate political blowback by Republican lawmakers and others after they were made public this summer. Within days, De-

fense Secretary Lloyd Austin issued a brief order saying he was nullifying them. Plea bargains in possible death penalty cases tied to one of the gravest crimes ever carried out on U.S. soil were a momentous step that should only be decided by the defense secretary, Austin said at the time. The agreements,

and Austin's attempt to reverse them, have made for one of the most fraught episodes in a U.S. prosecution marked by delays and legal difficulties. That includes years of ongoing pretrial hearings to determine the admissibility of statements by the defendants given their years of torture in CIA custody. The Pentagon is reviewing the judge's decision and had no immediate further comment, said Maj. Gen. Pat Ryder, Pentagon press secretary.

Lawdragon, a legal news site that long has covered the courtroom proceedings from Guantanamo, and The New York Times first reported the ruling.

Military officials have yet to post the judge's decision on the Guantanamo military commission's online site. But Lawdragon said McCall's 29-page ruling concludes that Austin lacked the legal authority to toss out the plea deals, and acted too late, after Guantanamo's top official already had approved the deals. □

Questions about sexual orientation and gender ID on track to be on US Census Bureau survey by 2027

By MIKE SCHNEIDER

Associated Press

Questions about sexual orientation, gender identity and changes to queries about race and ethnicity are on track to be asked in the most comprehensive survey of American life by 2027, U.S. Census Bureau officials said Thursday.

The new or revised questions on the American Community Survey will show up on questionnaires and be asked by survey takers in as early as three years, with the data from those questions available the following year, officials told an advisory committee.

The American Community Survey is the most comprehensive survey of American life, covering commuting times, internet access, family life, income, education levels, disabilities and mili-

tary service, among many other topics, with a sample size of more than 3.5 million households.

Some of the revised questions are the result of changes the federal government announced earlier this year about how it categorizes people by race and ethnicity. The changes were the first in 27 years and were aimed at better counting people who identify as Hispanic and of Middle Eastern and North African heritage.

Under the revisions, questions about race and ethnicity that previously were asked separately will be combined into a single question. That will give respondents the option to pick multiple categories at the same time, such as "Black," "American Indian" and "Hispanic." A Middle Eastern and North African

category also will be added to the choices.

The revised race categories may be implemented sooner, as early as next year for data released in 2026, for the Census Bureau's population estimates which look at annual changes based on births, deaths and migration.

Questions in English and Spanish about sexual orientation and gender identity started being tested in August with trial questionnaires sent out to several hundred-thousand households. Testing for in-person interviews will start next spring.

The testing seeks to study the impact of question wording, what kind of answer options should be given and how respondents answer questions about other members of their household in what is known

as "proxy responses." The questions only will be asked about people who are age 15 or older.

On the sexual orientation test question, respondents can provide a write-in response if they don't see themselves in the gay or

lesbian, straight or bisexual options. The gender identity test question has two steps, with the first asking if they were born male or female at birth and the second asking about their current gender. □



The luxury, residential skyscraper buildings of "Billionaire's Row" in Manhattan are visible from Central Park in New York, Feb. 20, 2022.

Associated Press

Wyoming moves ahead with selling land in Grand Teton National Park to federal government for \$100M

By MEAD GRUVER

Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) —

Wyoming officials voted Thursday to proceed with selling a spectacular, pristine piece of state property within Grand Teton National Park to the federal government for \$100 million and end decades of threats to sell it to the highest-bidding private developer.

The 3-2 vote by the state Board of Land Commissioners — made up of Gov. Mark Gordon and the other top four state elected officials, all Republicans — puts the square-mile (2.6-square-kilometer) parcel with an unobstructed view of the Teton Range a step closer to becoming part of the park.

The land that has been a bone of contention between Wyoming and federal officials for decades may now finally be on track to sell by the end of this year.

"There's clearly a right decision to be made. This is a very rare opportunity for you to do the right thing for education in Wyoming," Wyoming Senate President



Part of a square-mile section of state land in Wyoming's Grand Teton National Park is seen, Oct. 5, 2023.

Associated Press

Ogden Driskill, a Republican, urged the board before the vote.

Conservation and sportsmen's groups have made similar appeals to keep the property out of private hands even though selling to developers could net the state the highest dollar return.

The state land surrounded by national parkland on all sides has belonged to Wyoming since state-

hood. However, leasing it for grazing has brought in only a few thousand dollars a year, far below what the state could get from a modest return on investing the proceeds of a sale.

As in other states particularly in the West, revenue from state lands funds public education.

The two officials voting no said they hoped to strike a better deal under President-elect Donald Trump's

incoming administration, possibly involving a swap for fossil-fuel-rich federal lands elsewhere in the state. One was state Superintendent of Public Instruction Megan Degenfelder, who said she wanted to protect the land but get the best deal possible.

"This is the most valuable piece of property Wyoming has ever had," Degenfelder said before the vote. "To me, we can't sell Wyo-

ming short. I don't believe that voting it down today or tabling it today, as I prefer, is closing doors."

For decades, Wyoming governors have threatened to sell the land within Grand Teton to the highest bidder if the federal government wouldn't buy it. The threats led to on-and-off negotiations and three previous sales of other state land within the park to the federal government totaling \$62 million.

The Wyoming Legislature approved the \$100 million purchase in the state budget last winter. Under the deal, a federal fund will provide the land's appraised value of \$62 million and privately raised money the rest.

Lawmakers stipulated that the governor could walk away from the deal if a plan by President Joe Biden's administration to limit oil and gas drilling and other development in a vast area of southwestern Wyoming moves ahead.

The plan irks many in Wyoming, which relies on fossil fuels for jobs and revenue. □

In this Florida school district, some parents are pushing back against a cellphone ban

By KATE PAYNE

Associated Press/Report for America

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) —

It's no surprise that students are pushing back on cellphone bans in class-

rooms. But school administrators in one South Florida county working to pull students' eyes away from their screens are facing some resistance from another group as well parents.

Since the beginning of the 2024 school year in August, students in Broward County Public Schools, the country's sixth largest district, have been barred from using cellphones during the school day, including during lunch and breaks, unless given special permission.

The schools are some of the many across the country wrestling with how to crack down on cellphones, at a time when experts say social media use among young people is nearly universal and that screen time is linked to higher rates of anxiety and depression among kids.

But a survey sent out by the South Florida school district earlier this fall found that of the more than 70,000 stu-

dents, teachers and parents surveyed, nearly one in five parents believe the cellphone ban is having a negative impact on their student's wellbeing.

Among the top concerns for the students and parents surveyed is not being able to communicate with their family members, especially in an emergency an anxiety that cuts deep in the district that's home to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, where a 2018 shooting killed 17 people. District officials have said students can use their phones during an emergency and that teachers have the flexibility to grant kids access for other reasons too.

"I don't think any of us thinks kids should be on

their phones during class," said Erin Gohl, a parent and advocate in the district.

"We're really talking about giving kids tools during those times when they need it," she added, including letting students use their phones for "positive mental health purposes". Officials in the Fort Lauderdale-area district have acknowledged that implementation of the policy has been inconsistent.

Some teachers have struggled to monitor students' phone use, and are facing the reality that for some kids, phones can be a needed tool to access online lessons and turn in assignments, especially for those who don't have a school-issued laptop. □



Students wait for their bus to school, Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2024, in Surfside, Fla.

Associated Press

A new law allows Israel to deport the relatives of attackers. Experts expect it to be struck down

By JULIA FRANKEL and MEL-ANIE LIDMAN
Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's parliament passed a law early Thursday that would allow it to deport family members of Palestinian attackers, including the country's own citizens, to the war-ravaged Gaza Strip or other locations.

The law, which was championed by members of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud party and his far-right allies, passed with a 61-41 vote.

However, legal experts said that any attempt to implement the legislation would likely lead to it being struck down by Israeli courts.

The law would apply to Palestinian citizens of Israel and residents of annexed east Jerusalem who knew about their family members' attacks beforehand or who "express support or identification with the act of terrorism."

They would be deported, either to the Gaza Strip or another location, for a period of seven to 20 years. The Israel-Hamas war is still raging in Gaza, where tens of thousands have been killed and most of the population has been internally displaced, often multiple times.

It was unclear if the law would apply in the oc-



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu speaks at the opening of the 25th Knesset session marking the anniversary of the "Iron Swords" war, in Jerusalem, Monday, Oct. 28, 2024.

Associated Press

cupied West Bank, where Israel already has a long-standing policy of demolishing family homes of attackers, which critics decry as collective punishment. Palestinians have carried out scores of stabbing, shooting and car-ramming attacks against Israelis in recent years.

Oded Feller, a legal adviser to the Association for Civil Rights in Israel, dismissed the law as "populist nonsense." He said it was unlikely to be applied, because there is no legal way for the Interior

Ministry to send an Israeli citizen to another country or to Gaza.

His organization doesn't plan to challenge the law unless authorities try to enforce it, in which case he expects any court challenge to succeed.

Eran Shamir-Borer, a senior researcher at the Israel Democracy Institute and a former international law expert for the Israeli military, agreed that the law was likely to be struck down by the Supreme Court.

He said that if a resident of

east Jerusalem was deported under the law, it could be seen by many in the international community as a violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention, because they view the area as occupied territory, although Israel does not.

The deportation of an Israeli citizen could be seen not only as a violation of their constitutional rights under Israeli law, but also as a breach of their human rights under international law, he said. The law could also be seen as a form of

collective punishment and as discriminatory, because it appears to only apply to Arab citizens and residents, and not to family members of Jews convicted under terrorism laws.

"The bottom line is this is completely nonconstitutional and a clear conflict to Israel's core values," Shamir-Borer said.

Israel's national security minister, Itamar Ben-Gvir, a Jewish West Bank settler leader who was himself convicted of terrorism crimes as a political activist years ago, praised the new law, noting that a member of his Jewish Power party was among the sponsors. "Jewish Power is making history!" he wrote on X.

Israel captured Gaza, the West Bank and east Jerusalem in the 1967 Middle East war territories the Palestinians want for their future state. It withdrew settlers and soldiers from Gaza in 2005, but has reoccupied parts of the territory since Hamas' attack on Oct. 7, 2023 triggered the war.

Israel annexed east Jerusalem in a move not recognized by most of the international community.

Palestinians there have permanent residency and are allowed to apply for citizenship, but most choose not to, and those who do face a series of obstacles. □

Putin congratulates Trump on his election victory in his first public comments on the U.S. vote

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday congratulated Donald Trump on his election victory in his first public comment on the U.S. vote, and he praised the president-elect's courage during the July assassination attempt.

"His behavior at the moment of an attempt on his life left an impression on me. He turned out to be a brave man," Putin said at an international forum following a speech in the Black Sea resort of Sochi.

"He manifested himself in the very correct way, bravely as a man," he added.

Putin also said that what Trump has said "about the desire to restore relations with Russia, to help end the Ukrainian crisis, in my opinion, deserves attention at least."

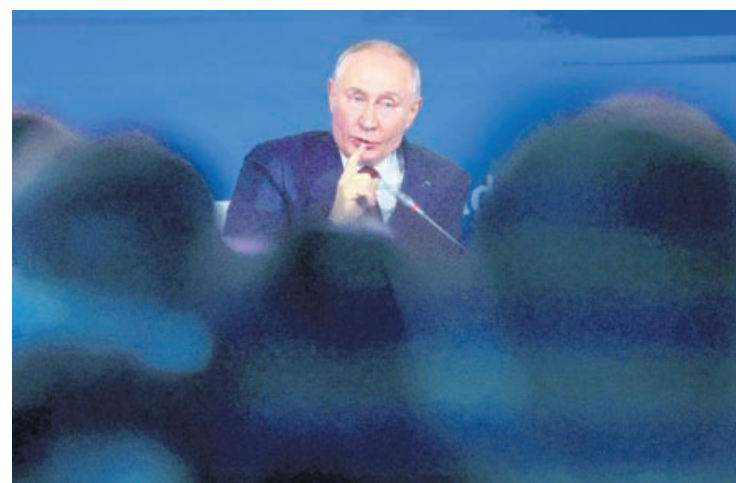
The Kremlin earlier welcomed Trump's claim that he could negotiate an end to

the conflict in Ukraine "in 24 hours" but emphasized that it will wait for concrete policy steps. "I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate him on his election as president of the United States of America," Putin said in a question-and-answer session at the conference.

As to what he expects from a second Trump administration, Putin said, "I don't know what will happen now. I have no idea."

"For him, this is still his last presidential term. What he will do is his matter," Putin said.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Thursday the Kremlin is not ruling out the possibility of contact between Putin and Trump "said he would call Putin before the inauguration." □



Russian President Vladimir Putin gestures as he answers to a question during a meeting with foreign policy experts at the Valdai Discussion Club in the Black Sea resort of Sochi, Russia, Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024.

Associated Press

Cuba left reeling after Category 3 hurricane ravages island and knocks out power grid

By **ANDREA RODRÍGUEZ**
Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Cuba was left reeling Thursday after a fierce Category 3 hurricane ripped across the island, knocking out the country's power grid, downing trees and damaging infrastructure.

No fatalities were immediately reported in Cuba, and Hurricane Rafael had weakened to a Category 2 storm as it swirled across the gulf toward Mexico where heavy rains were expected in the coming days.

Rafael crossed a western portion of Cuba on Wednesday evening about 75 kilometers (45 miles) west of Havana, where José Ignacio Dimas returned home from his night shift as a security guard to find his apartment building in the historic center of the city had collapsed.

"The entire front wall of the building fell," José Ignacio Dimas said in a tight voice as he scanned the damage early Thursday. Like many buildings in the capital, it was aging and lacked maintenance.

Some 50,000 people took shelter in Havana, with thousands more doing the



People drive along a road littered with fallen power lines after the passing of Hurricane Rafael in San Antonio de los Baños, Cuba, Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024.

Associated Press

same in regions south and just west of the capital since they lived in flood zones or in flimsy homes. The main road from Havana to the southern coastal city of Batabanó was strewn with dozens of utility poles and wires.

In Havana, residents picked up what debris they could, but huge trees and fallen telephone lines lined the

ground, blocking traffic. Concerned about food going bad due to blackouts, a group of residents opened an informal soup kitchen.

"If we don't work together as neighbors, nobody does it," said Ariel Calvo, who was helping to shovel debris Thursday morning.

Lázaro Guerra, electricity director for the Ministry of Energy and Mines, said

power had been partially restored in the island's western region and that generation units were powering back up. But he warned that restoring power would be slow-going as crews took safety precautions.

On Thursday morning, the hurricane was located about 200 miles (320 kilometers) west-northwest of Havana. It had maximum

sustained winds of 100 mph (345 kph) and was moving west-northwest at 9 mph (15 kph).

Earlier in the week, Rafael brushed past Jamaica and battered the Cayman Islands, downing trees and power lines and unleashing heavy flooding in some areas.

Authorities in Jamaica are searching for a couple last seen inside a car that was swept away by floodwaters, police told Radio Jamaica News.

Thousands of customers in Jamaica and Little Cayman remained without power as crews worked to restore electricity after the storm.

Rafael was expected to keep weakening as it spins over open waters and heads toward northern Mexico, although the hurricane center warned there was "above average uncertainty" in the storm's future track.

Meanwhile, many Cubans were left picking up the pieces from Wednesday night, after a rocky few weeks in the Caribbean nation. In October, the island was hit by a one-two punch. □

South Africa closes its border again with Mozambique, where post-election violence worsens

By **MOGOMOTSI MAGOME**
Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — South Africa closed its border with Mozambique shortly after opening it on Thursday as post-election violence in the neighboring country escalated, leading to clashes between protesters and the police.

Authorities also warned South Africans to postpone non-essential visits to Mozambique. Amnesty International said on Wednesday that at least 20 people have died and hundreds more have been injured and arrested since the beginning of the protests in late October.

The border was closed this

week and partially opened earlier on Thursday to allow limited movement of trucks and vehicles stuck there,

but the decision was quickly reversed.

Protesters in Mozambique, organized by opposition



Protesters fill the street as police deploy in Maputo, Mozambique, Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024.

Associated Press

leaders and their supporters disputing the outcome of the Oct. 9 elections that saw the ruling Frelimo party extend its 49-year rule. Police have reportedly fired teargas to disperse protesters in the capital of Maputo.

Videos on social media sites belonging to opposition leader Venancio Mondlane show scores of young people marching toward Maputo and barricading streets with rocks and burning tires.

Mondlane, who came in second in the presidential election with 20% of the vote, has reportedly fled the country after two of his aides were killed before the

results were announced. South Africa's Border Management Agency said it closed its side of the border after 15 employees from the Mozambican border post crossed over seeking refuge and protection.

"They say that the protesters are on the way and have just passed the area where they process the trucks and some of the travelers. They looted everything there, they took computers and they looted the trucks, the situation is just bad," said agency commissioner Mike Masiapato. South Africa's international relations minister, Ronald Lamola, called for calm and an end to the violence. □

How Aruban beaches came to be!

(Oranjestad)—We've talked about the best beaches to visit on the island before, but have you ever wondered how Aruba got its white, sandy beaches, and why there's a clear difference between the northern and southern shores? Here are some fun facts about the development

of Aruban beaches.

How did Aruba get its white, sandy beaches?

Aruba's beaches have developed over the span of thousands of years. Waves crashing on the rocky formations along our coast line (which consists mainly of

coral reefs) have started to wear and tear the reefs over time, resulting in its gradual breakdown. Fish that feed off corals also contribute to this, one small bite at a time. Over the course of thousands of years, as waves continue to crash and fish continue to eat off the corals, sand starts to accumulate around the area. However, whether the sand stays there is another question to be answered, and this is where we highlight the biggest difference between the northern and southern coast of the island.

The sand that accumulates around a torn coral reef is swept away along with the debris by the ocean stream. However, in areas where it's shallow and the stream is weaker, the sand tends to stick to the bottom faster. This is why the beaches in the south—the areas with weaker stream and shallower ocean floors—has sand that stretches for miles. In contrast, the northern area, where the stream is much stronger and the ocean floor is much deeper, there is no sand present—they were swept away with the current!



Why north deep, but south shallow?

Ah! Good question...and interesting phrasing.

Aruba is a continental island. The island actually forms part of South America, and the space between Aruba and the South American

continent is simply referred to as land that runs under the ocean. This is why it gets gradually deeper in the south, whereas the ocean floor in the north runs steeply to the bottom. □

Source: archival document provided by the National Archive of Aruba (ANA).



The Lionfish

And its threat to our marine wild life

(Oranjestad)—Despite its colorful and striking appearance, the lionfish has become a Caribbean-wide problem for Atlantic sea life. The Aruban marine wild life is also affected by this beautiful dilemma, as it is foreign to our waters and has become a danger to our local fish and reefs.

Originating from the Indo-Pacific Ocean, the lionfish is a relatively small fish. It has no teeth, but it does protect itself against predators using its sharp, colorful spikes. It is said that the sting of a lionfish can be up to 100 times more painful than that of a bee's sting.

Its natural predators in the Indo-Pacific are sharks and barracudas, but in the Caribbean Sea, local fish do not recognize the lionfish as part of their diet. In other words, the lionfish has no predators in the Caribbean Sea. And this becomes a major problem for our local marine life; if there are no predators to stimulate population control of lionfish, these fish can continue to reproduce and expand to other parts of the Atlantic, become more invasive and dangerous for other types of fish.

For Aruba, the lionfish is a problem especially for our local coral reefs. According to Patrick van Brakel, lionfish expert and hunter from the Hunting Lionfish Aruba foundation, every reef has a "cleaning station"—tiny fish that eat algae and other types of waste on a reef, thus maintaining the reef's health and providing food to the fish population in the area.

However, as the lionfish feeds off of these tiny fish, it becomes harder for the coral reef to maintain its health.

Patrick also shares the origins of lionfish in the Caribbean Sea. It is theorized that the introduction of these fish in the Atlantic happened in Florida, where people would buy lionfish from across the world to keep in their aquariums. However, lionfish grow, and as these buyers realized that the fish were too much upkeep, they were let out into the ocean to roam free. From continental USA, the lionfish travelled to and invaded the entire Caribbean area, from Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao up to New York. In Aruba, lionfish were discovered in 2009.

Controlling the lionfish population is challenge, as each female fish can lay up to 40,000 eggs a day. Luckily, we have people like van Brakel who dedicate their lives hunting and capturing these invasive species, using them for consumption and jewelry making.

They are caught with a hand spear, an object resembling a garbage picker with 4 sharp prongs. These spears are used like a sling shot to catch lionfish from a distance. These fish are then put into a collecting tube and taken out of the water. Van Brakel not only catches them himself, but also cooks them for locals and tourists at The LionFish Snack Aruba in Paradera. This way, he does his part in protecting the local wild life.

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Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Barceló Aruba - All Inclusive!



The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The honorees were respectively honored with a certificate for their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor are as follows:
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Distinguished Visitors

Mr. Marcelo & Mrs. Roxana Dolan from San Isidro, Argentina.

Ms. Kimberly Richardson representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Barceló Aruba - All Inclusive bestowed the certificate upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were:

- Aruba's people.
- Aruba's beaches.
- Aruba is safe.
- Aruba is happiness.
- Aruba is relaxing.

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island". □

Lessons from our elders: Plants and fruits for medicinal use

(Oranjestad)—Though western medicine is now widely used for common illnesses and to keep our bodies healthy and happy, it is still very common in every household in Aruba (and around the world) to have staple home remedies that is passed on through generations. Here are some tips that our elders have passed on to us over the years.

Pineapple

Pineapple has more uses than topping it on your Christmas ham. According to elders, the skin of a pineapple is great to use to refresh your body. Clean the skin thoroughly and make tea or warapa* with it. It is said that this tea can also be drank after an operation on the ovaries or uterus. This gets rid of irritation and inflammation.

When the fruit is unripe and green, this can be used to stimulate menstruation flow in women. This also stimulates the passing kidney stones. When ripe, the fruit can be used for poisoning in the gut and can help treat rheumatic diseases,



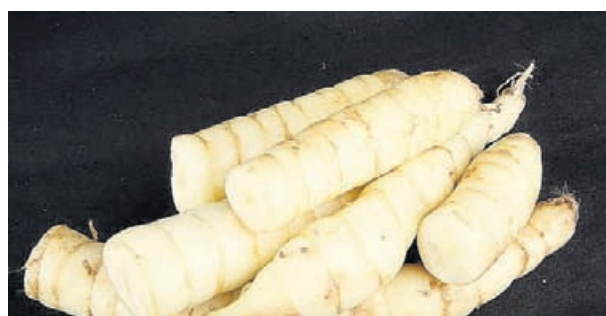
like arthritis.

However, breastfeeding women who cannot produce much milk are advised not to consume too pineapple, and people with acid reflux are recommended to not consume any pineapple at all.

Arrowroot

Arrowroot is native to tropical America and can be sold as a powder or whole. It is said that you can take arrowroot powder and make a "shalup" (porridge) for stomach pain or when you're feeling weak. You can make it with milk too, but it is advised to best use just water. You can also add prunes for a bit of sweetness. Arrowroot shalup is also good to treat an unhealthy gut or for diarrhea.

To make arrowroot shalup, boil a bit of water and add one tablespoon of arrowroot powder and stir continuously until you reach porridge consistency. If you make a shalup with milk, add a pinch of salt. Raw arrowroot powder can



be used to powder babies.

Eggplant/Aubergine

Eggplants, or aubergines, are easy to find in supermarkets around the world and can be grown all year round on the island. Related to potato and tomato, eggplants are good to calm nerves. It can also be used to lower blood pressure, by steeping its leaves in boiled water and drinking it. You can also make eggplant juice to help purify your blood. However, do make sure to drink slowly; let it mix with your spit and then swallow.

Eggplant kataplan* can also be used to treat skin tumors, abscesses and hemorrhoids. Eggplant kataplan can also be used externally to treat arthritis. *

*warapa: term referring to a water and sugar solution, a.k.a simple syrup.

*kataplan: porridge-like mixture used externally for wounds or parts of the body that are painful or swollen.

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Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Costa Linda Beach Resort!

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Emerald Ambassadors of Aruba.



The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Ma-sha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor are as follows:
Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honorees were:
Emerald Ambassadors
Mr. Thomas & Mrs. Barbara Helfenbein from Stevensville, Maryland, United States.

Ms. Marouska Heyliger representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Costa Linda Beach Resort bestowed the certificate upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were:

- Aruba is a beautiful destination
- The hotel staff are very friendly
- Aruba's beaches
- The ocean is clean
- The island is small

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island". ☐

Snakes you may encounter on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—If you have ever or will ever go off-roading on the island, you may encounter three types of snakes that are dominant on the island. The Cascabel, Santanero and Boa differ from each other in a couple ways, and local perspective on each one may help you understand what you need to do if you ever were to encounter one during your touring session on the island.

Cascabel (*Crotalus unicolor*)

The small Cascabel or Aruba Island Rattlesnake averages 70 cm in length. The body color is often uniform gray or light brown. There may be a faint pattern of diamond shaped markings on the back. This pattern is most noticeable on younger snakes. The most distinctive feature of this snake is the rattle at the end of its tail which makes a buzzing sound when the snake is alarmed. Cascabels are shy and not aggressive, but their venom can be dangerous to humans. In fact, it's the only venomous snake native to the island. It is best to leave this snake alone. Do not attempt to catch or kill it, as it could not only be dangerous, but this snake is also endemic to the island, and its preservation has become a legal mandate for all residents and visitors.

Cascabels hunt by waiting under bushes and fruiting trees to catch passing lizards, mice, rats, small rabbits, and an occasional bird. This is often considered to be one of the rarest rattlesnakes in the world. The range of the Cascabel is restricted to the rugged and mountainous areas of the island mostly within Arikok National Park. The Arikok National Park was designated in the early 1980s to include most of the rattlesnake's population, providing a safe refuge in which the snake can be protected and monitored. The government has also imple-

mented outreach and education initiatives to change local perception of the snake and highlight its ecological and economic importance – it is now being promoted as a national symbol. Arikok's partnership with the Toledo zoo has safeguarded the rattlesnake ex-situ and led to a number of research projects collecting critical data on the Cascabel's abundance, life history and habitat requirement to help guide future conservation efforts.

Santanero

The slender Santanero or Aruban Cat-eyed Snake is a small fella, typically less than 50 cm long. This snake is recognizable by the large scales on the top of its head and by its pattern of dark brown bands alternating with light brown bands. The belly is plain white or cream colored without any markings. Native as well to the island, this snake is shy and not aggressive. However, it has enlarged teeth at the back of its mouth and mild venom which is not dangerous to humans, but can paralyze small lizards and frogs. Santaneros are most active at night when they search for food. During the day, they hide under rocks or leaves. They frequently climb trees and cactus. Santaneros eat toads, frogs, insects, and lizards. You may find Santaneros near dams during periods of rainy weather or crossing roads at night. This snake is found island wide. A Santanero in your garden will keep away the unwanted insects. If you encounter a Santanero around your garden, please do not harm this species.

Boa (*Boa constrictor*)

Boas are Aruba's largest snakes. The longest Boa found on the island was slightly less than 3 m. Newborn Boas average 35 cm. Boas are not venomous but are what is called constrictor snakes;



they kill by wrapping themselves around a prey and suffocating them. The most distinctive feature of a Boa is its pattern of dark brown and tan blotches which become red toward the tail. The belly is white or cream colored with numerous black spots. Boas are excellent climbers and may be found in trees and cactus. Boas also hide in the leaves under bushes waiting to catch prey that pass. Boas catch their prey with their teeth and then constrict it in their coils. The Boa's diet consists of birds, lizards, rats, mice, and rabbits. Large

Boas have been known to eat small goats and chickens. When threatened, Boas will hiss loudly.

Boas are a non-native species and are invasive to the island, risking the population of native lizards and birds. The first Boas were reported on the island in 1999. Since that time they have been found across the entire island in all types of habitats. If you ever encounter a Boa, please do not approach it. Instead, please call the Arikok National Park, as they are experienced in handling Boas. □



The district of Savaneta

A quick history guide to the island's first capital

(Oranjestad)—Before Oranjestad became the island nation's capital, Aruba's first capital was the district of Savaneta. Here is where the cultural identity of Aruba was born, and from where the rest of the island developed into what it is today.

Savaneta is said to have been the first place where the Caquetio inhabitants first stepped foot on the island. Though there isn't hard evidence to back this up, but considering the legend of the Cacique Arua, it is believed that there were already movements on Aruba—and Savaneta—around 88 AD.

The Caquetios probably made their way to the island either from Venezuela, Colombia or other Caribbean islands in the region, but with good weather it was relatively easy for them to travel back and forth in their canoes. So, since the Caquetios discovered the island, Aruba found her first form of civilization.

It wasn't until 1499 when Aruba met another group of people who set foot on the island: the Spanish explorer Alonso de Ojeda. De Ojeda first took notice of Aruba off the coast of Venezuela, during his exploration of the Latin American country. This was on August 9th, 1499. However, de Ojeda didn't actually sail to the island till 4 days later, on August 23rd, 1499. This was the beginning of the Spanish era on Aruba (1499-1636).

Alonso usually didn't stop at every island or land he saw, especially not in the Caribbean. He would often take notice of land from afar and continue sailing. However,

Aruba was an exception. He had heard that there were "quebracho" trees on the island, which were commonly used to produce dye or paint. But since these trees could not be found in Savaneta, he continued to search in the area of what is now known as Santa Cruz. The best way to transport the tree barks was via a route passing through Savaneta, and so the first road between Savaneta and Santa Cruz was made.

The Dutch colonial era (1636-1805)

During the 80-year war between The Netherlands and Spain, Dutch explorers and merchants began to travel to the ABC islands. Once they landed in Aruba, they deported the small Arawakan and Spanish community that was living on the island. This was the beginning of colonization of the ABC islands by the Dutch empire. Around the same, the West Indian Company (WIC) was born. Bonaire and Curaçao were mostly used for plantations, where the Dutch had transported slaves from Africa. Aruba, on the other hand, was mostly used to raise cattle and to house the haring factory. The Dutch had often forced the indigenous community to work for them.

In 1636, when the Netherlands won the war against Spain, the country surrendered the islands to the Dutch.

The Dutch administration appointed the island's first commander, an Irish man named N. Williams. Because the Dutch were interested in other Caribbean islands and countries in South America, they imported Dutch merchants and business



Commandeursbaai (Commander's Bay) at Savaneta

men, all of whom resided in Savaneta. This way, Savaneta officially became the island's first capital.

However, at the end of the 18th century, the commander at the time, J.R. Lauffer, moved his office to what is now "Horse Bay" in Oranjestad. Because the highest office on the island moved away from Savaneta, the capital lost its title to what was called then Playa.

How Savaneta got its name

The name Savaneta probably has a Spanish origin. It was said that when the Spanish climbed a hill called Yara, they saw that the area was mostly open and had no big trees. In Spanish, such a land area is called a "sabana".

Because of its land surface, Sava-

neta was a great place to construct cattle farms. From here, the farmer culture on Aruba was born. Before the Aruban Gold Rush and the construction of the Refinery in San Nicolas, most residents were farmers, and Savaneta had many inhabitants that farmed fruits and vegetables. They also continued the tradition of raising cattle, like goat, sheep, pigs and horses. Savaneta was one of the first places on the island to have a general farming culture. From this culture, many other traditions were born, like the Dera Gay Holiday that we celebrate every year on June 24th. □

Source: Historia di Savaneta (History of Savaneta) by Adolf "Duffi" Kock.



Alonso de Ojeda



"Quebracho" (Kibrahacha) tree; used to make dye and paint

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 39 Binary

1 Really like digit

7 Horn sound

11 Sitka's state

12 Trade show

13 Elect ceremony

14 Basic idea

15 Foils' kin

16 "I understand!"

17 Hot

18 A waste of time

19 Theater award

21 Negative link

22 Two-bar symbol

25 Letter before

26 Musical symbol

27 Stands

29 Striker's foe

33 Run, as color

34 Stable animal

35 Learning method

36 Exotic fruit

37 "Yeah, sure!"

38 Late hour

DOWN

1 Dance parties

2 Skip the ceremony

3 Rubber source

4 Words after

5 Enjoys "peek-aboo"

6 Solo in space

7 Sired

8 Leaving setting

9 Letter after delta

10 Peter Rabbit's creator

16 Shot in the dark

18 Does clerical work

20 Revealed

22 Ring need

23 More hushed

24 Reply to a knock

25 Iranian city

28 Handle

30 Want badly

31 So far

32 Chili

34 Robust

36 Parrot or puppy

ABHOR LEHAR
REES ORATE
CLASS CALEB
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NET OIL ASK
ASHORE KNEE
ALERTED
RIND RIGHTS
END SAN EEL
BAH PSY ANY
ERODE TERSE
LUMEN OATES
STEED TRYST

Yesterday's answer

10 Peter Rabbit's creator

16 Shot in the dark

18 Does clerical work

20 Revealed

22 Ring need

23 More hushed

24 Reply to a knock

25 Iranian city

28 Handle

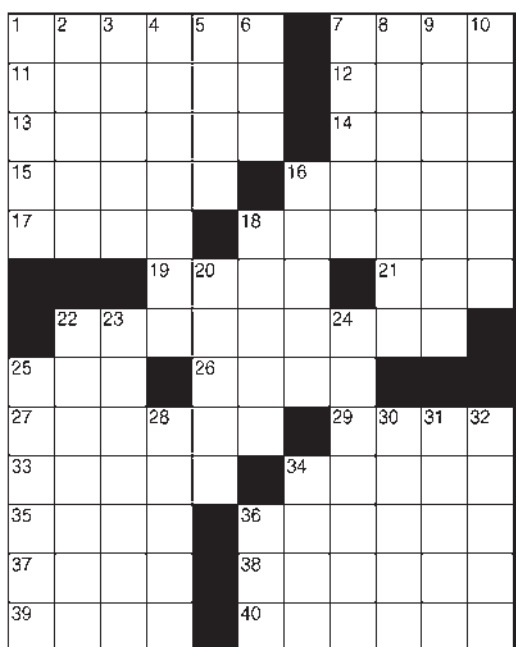
30 Want badly

31 So far

32 Chili

34 Robust

36 Parrot or puppy



4-20

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-20

CRYPTOQUOTE

LYNTOZ HF LJN Y XEYBZ

NJ SHFHN. HN HF MJPZ.

— UYOK FLKRZO

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: AND THE DAY CAME WHEN THE RISK TO REMAIN TIGHT IN A BUD WAS MORE PAINFUL THAN THE RISK IT TOOK TO RI OSSOM — ANAIS NIN

Cruise ship Schedule: November 03 - 10 2024

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
SUN	03	EMERALD PRINCESS	09.00	22.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS - DEPT.	****	22.15	E	-
MON	04	SEVEN SEAS GRANDEUR	07.00	16.00	C	1
TUE	05	GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS	08.00	21.00	B	1
		CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1
THU	07	SILVER SHADOW	08.00	23.00	C	1
FRI	08	CARNIVAL MIRACLE	09.00	22.00	C	1
SAT	09	ROYAL CLIPPER	09.00	18.00	B	1
		AIDAPERLA	08.00	****	C	1
SUN	10	AIDAPERLA - Dept.	****	22.00	C	-
		FREEWINDS - DEPT.	****	22.15	E	-

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

Supermarket hours



Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier, mostly around 2pm.

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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24/7

Deforestation in Brazil's Amazon drops by nearly 31% compared to previous year

By **FABIANO MAISONNAVE**
Associated Press

AGUA CLARA, Brazil (AP)

— Forest loss in Brazil's Amazon dropped by 30.6% compared to the previous year, officials said Wednesday, the lowest level of destruction in nine years.

In a 12-month span, the Amazon rainforest lost 6,288 square kilometers (2,428 square miles), roughly the size of the U.S. state of Delaware.

The results, announced in Brazil's presidential palace, sharply contrast with President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva's predecessor, far-right leader Jair Bolsonaro, who prioritized agribusiness expansion over forest protection and weakened environmental agencies. Deforestation hit a 15-year high during his term.

Deforestation in Brazil's vast savannah, known as the Cerrado, decreased by 25.7%, the first decline in five years. The area destroyed reached 8,174 square kilometers (3,156 square miles). Located in central Brazil, it is the world's most biodiverse savannah but has fewer legal protections than the Amazon.

Despite the success in curbing Amazon deforestation, Lula's government has been criticized by environmentalists for backing projects that could harm the region, such as the pavement of a highway that cuts from an old-growth area, oil drilling in the mouth of the Amazon River and building a railway to transport soy to Amazonian ports.

Brazil's deforestation monitoring system tracks Aug. 1 to July 30, so Wednesday's report doesn't capture the destruction from the past few months, as a historic drought opened the way to a surge in forest fires that burned an area larger than Switzerland. Much of the damage from fires is classified as degradation, not clearcutting deforestation, as the fire in the Amazon rainforest spreads



A river borders an area that has been illegally deforested by land-grabbers and cattle farmers in an extractive reserve in Jaci-Parana, Rondonia state, Brazil, July 11, 2023.

Associated Press

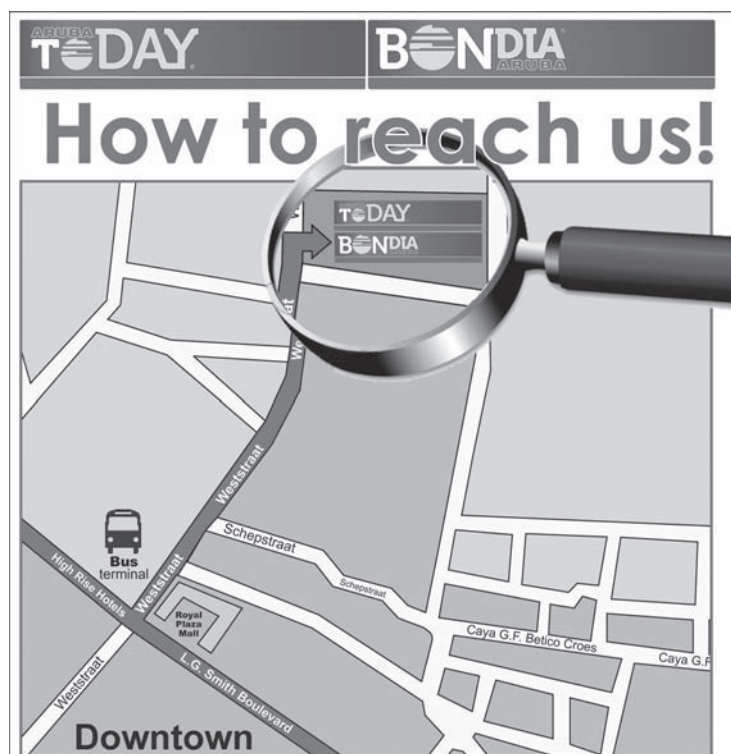
mostly through leaves on the ground, and not through treetops. But the full impact will be assessed in the following months through further satellite monitoring. Government officials already fear that the deforestation rate may increase next year as the Amazonian city of Belem prepares to host the annual U.N. climate talks, known as COP30.

The Amazon, an area twice the size of India, holds the

world's largest rainforest, about two-thirds of it within Brazil. It stores vast amounts of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas that causes climate change.

The Amazon thus prevents the climate from warming even faster than it would otherwise.

The basin also holds about 20% of the world's fresh water and biodiversity includes 16,000 known tree species. □



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Dodgers not counting on Ohtani to pitch at the start of next season following left shoulder surgery

By **RONALD BLUM**
AP Baseball Writer

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The Los Angeles Dodgers aren't counting on Shohei Ohtani to pitch at the start of next season and will wait to see how his rehabilitation progresses following shoulder surgery on his non-throwing arm.

Ohtani had a procedure Tuesday to repair a torn labrum in his left shoulder, an injury sustained while sliding during a stolen base attempt in Game 2 of the World Series on Oct. 26. The two-way star did not pitch this year while recovering from elbow surgery on Sept. 19, 2023.

"We're going to take it piece by piece and get through this and then take it in one-, two-week chunks and make sure that we're in a really good place on each of those benchmarks and then go from there and not try to say, 'Hey, we need to be ready by this day,'" general manager Brandon Gomes said Wednesday. "We're going to let the rehab process play out."

Ohtani and the Dodgers begin next season in Tokyo, with a two-game series against the Chicago Cubs on March 18 and 19.

After signing a record \$700 million, 10-year contract, the 30-year-old Ohtani hit .310 with 54 homers, 130 RBIs and 59 stolen bases this year, becoming the first



Los Angeles Dodgers' Shohei Ohtani gets caught stealing by New York Mets shortstop Francisco Lindor during the second inning in Game 1 of a baseball NL Championship Series, Sunday, Oct. 13, 2024, in Los Angeles.

player with at least 50 homers and 50 stolen bases in a season.

"I think it's safe that he will not steal 50 bases next year," Gomes said. "I have a hunch. I don't want to count it out because I don't ever bet against Shohei." Gomes said left-hander Clayton Kershaw had surgery Wednesday but he could not go into details because the three-time Cy Young Award winner was a free agent. He also said Mookie Betts is likely headed back to the infield next year and the World Series champions would like to reach a new contract with

manager Dave Roberts, whose current deal runs through next season.

Ohtani was operated on by head team physician Dr. Neal ElAttrache.

"The rehab stages have different lower-intensity exercises and may just be movement," Gomes said. "Our trainers and performance coaches and doctors are all in lockstep on that and we'll be with him along the way."

Ohtani has stopped his throwing program.

"He probably would have stopped throwing anyway with the offseason, but he needs to recover from this

and then get that back up," Gomes said.

Los Angeles expects to have right-handers Yoshinobu Yamamoto, Tony Gonsolin, Dustin May and Tyler Glasnow ready for opening day. Yamamoto was sidelined by right triceps tightness between June 15 and Sept. 10, Glasnow didn't pitch after Aug. 11 because of right elbow tendinitis, Gonsolin spent all of 2024 recovering from Tommy John surgery, and May didn't pitch this year following elbow and esophagus operations.

Betts started the season at shortstop, broke his left

hand on June 16 when hit by a pitch and moved to right field when he returned on Aug. 12. His shift back to the infield is a product of trying to protect his body and the desire of the 32-year-old, an eight-time All-Star.

"That's not set in stone but I think just the toll of the outfield and I think it's really hard on guys bouncing back and forth," Gomes said. "We'll have those more in-depth conversations soon and get some clarity on it."

Moving Betts from right field would create intrigue over whether Los Angeles might pursue Juan Soto, the top free agent on the market.

If Betts moved back to second base instead of shortstop, the Dodgers would need to find another position for Gavin Lux, who made 117 starts at second this year. Lux returned after missing the 2023 season with a torn ACL and was moved from shortstop after defensive struggles early in spring training.

"Gavin's been a huge part of our success," Gomes said.

Roberts started as Dodgers manager for the 2016 season with a three-year contract that included a team option, agreed in December 2018 to a four-year contract and then in March 2022 to his latest deal, which runs through 2025. □



Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher Paul Skenes (30) pitches during the second inning of a baseball game against the New York Yankees, Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024, in New York.

Associated Press

Paul Skenes and Luis Gil win Baseball Digest rookie of the year awards

NEW YORK (AP) — Paul Skenes of the Pittsburgh Pirates and fellow pitcher Luis Gil from the New York Yankees were chosen rookies of the year by Baseball Digest. The top pick in the 2023 amateur draft, Skenes dazzled during his first major league season. After making his debut on May 11, he was such an immediate sensation that he was selected to start the All-Star Game for the National League on July 16 in Texas. The 22-year-old right-hander finished 11-3 with a 1.96 ERA in 23 starts. He struck out 170 batters and walked 32 in 133 innings. Skenes received nine of 11 first-place votes for the NL award from a panel of baseball

writers and broadcasters.

Results were announced by the publication Thursday.

San Diego Padres outfielder Jackson Merrill got the other two first-place votes and came in second.

Gil went 15-7 with a 3.50 ERA in 29 starts for the American League champions. He had 171 strikeouts in 151 2/3 innings.

The 26-year-old righty was picked first on six ballots for the AL prize. Baltimore Orioles outfielder Colton Cowser was the runner-up with three first-place votes, and Oakland Athletics closer Mason Miller finished third with two. □

76ers' All-Star guard Tyrese Maxey out with hamstring injury, AP source says

By DAN GELSTON

AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The trio of 76ers' stars looked majestic on opening night as their images covered the arena's 4K kinetic scoreboard. Joel Embiid palmed a basketball. Tyrese Maxey in the middle appeared ready to burst off the screen for a dunk. Paul George looked fierce as he squeezed a basketball with both hands. Embiid. Maxey. George. They were the expected anchors of a Philadelphia team that counted on this season as the one to finally make a deep run in the playoffs, all three with massive contracts to match the lofty expectations.

George bolted the Clippers to sign a four-year, \$212 million free-agent contract. Maxey, a first-time All Star last season, reached a five-year, \$204 million extension. Embiid, an NBA MVP and an Olympic gold medalist, agreed to a \$193 million extension.

What has all that lavish spending on three players with 17 combined All-Star nods got the Sixers two



Philadelphia 76ers guard Tyrese Maxey, right, drives past forward Guerschon Yabusele during the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Los Angeles Clippers, Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024, in Inglewood, Calif.

Associated Press

weeks into the season?

Try a 1-6 record headed into Friday's game at the Lakers tied with Milwaukee and Utah for worst in the NBA and no games played together because of injuries and suspension by Embiid, Maxey and George.

The 24-year-old Maxey is

the latest Sixer sidelined by injury, and he could miss at least two weeks with a right hamstring injury, a person with knowledge of the situation said Thursday.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the team hasn't disclosed details of Maxey's injury

publicly. The Sixers hope to know more after Maxey, who was injured a night earlier in a loss to the Los Angeles Clippers, received additional medical evaluation on Thursday.

"Not very good luck," coach Nick Nurse said Wednesday night. "We've

got to hang in there and still find a way to compete and play better."

Maxey leads the Sixers with 27.6 points and led the NBA with 39.7 minutes played per game. Maxey scored 12 points in 32 minutes against the Clippers but sat out the fourth quarter.

Maxey's hamstring woes are the latest setback for a franchise that is already watching a playoff berth turn more into an outside shot rather than the guarantee it seemed at training camp in the Bahamas.

George, who scored 18 points and was booed by Clippers fans in his return to Los Angeles, has played only two games this season because of a bone bruise on his left knee suffered in a preseason game.

The 76ers have played all season without Embiid, both for what the team calls left knee management and because of a three-game suspension for shoving a member of the media.

The 76ers have been under more NBA investigations (two) than they have wins (one) this season. □

F1 drivers criticize FIA and ask to be treated like adults over fines for swearing

LONDON (AP) — Formula 1 drivers have criticized the president of the sport's governing body, the FIA, and asked to be treated like adults in an escalating row over swearing in news conferences.

After top drivers like champion Max Verstappen and Charles Leclerc were punished for swearing in an apparent FIA crackdown, the Grand Prix Drivers' Association said FIA President Mohamed Ben Sulayem needed to "consider his own tone and language." "With regards to swearing, there is a difference between swearing intended to insult others and more casual swearing, such as you might use to describe bad weather, or indeed an inanimate object such as a

Formula 1 car, or a driving situation," the GPDA said in a statement on Instagram. "We urge the FIA President to also consider his own tone and language when talking to our member drivers, or indeed about them, whether in a public forum or otherwise. Further, our members are adults, they do not need to be given instructions via the media about matters as trivial as the wearing of jewelry and underpants."

Verstappen was ordered to perform an act of "public interest" at the Singapore Grand Prix in September after using an expletive to describe his Red Bull car in a news conference. That was shortly after Ben Sulayem had said there was too much swearing in F1.

Verstappen protested the ruling by giving brief, vague answers in his next FIA news conference.

Ferrari driver Leclerc was fined by the stewards at the Brazilian Grand Prix last week for a similar comment at the previous race in Mexico. The GPDA said it wanted more clarity from the FIA and Ben Sulayem about where money raised from fining drivers is spent. Ben Sulayem's stance on swearing has drawn criticism before. Seven-time champion Lewis Hamilton said in September there was a "racial element" to the way Ben Sulayem had sought to contrast F1 with rap music in an interview with motorsport.com explaining why the FIA would push back against swear-

ing. The FIA has previously tried to enforce a ban on jewelry, which prompted Hamilton to turn up to a race wearing multiple necklaces, watches and

rings in protest, and has reminded drivers to wear approved fireproof underclothes. The next race is the Las Vegas Grand Prix on Nov. 23. □



Red Bull driver Max Verstappen of the Netherlands, celebrates finishing first in the Brazilian Formula One Grand Prix at the Interlagos race track, in Sao Paulo, Brazil, Sunday, Nov. 3, 2024.

Associated Press



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The Casino at The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba encourages Responsible Gaming.

Don Bosseler, an AP All-American at Miami and 8-year NFL back, dies at 88

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
AP Sports Writer
Associated Press

Don Bosseler, an All-American fullback who led Miami to the No. 6 ranking in The Associated Press poll in 1956 and was enshrined in the College Football Hall of Fame, has died, his family and the National Football Foundation announced Thursday. He was 88.

Bosseler, who played eight years in the NFL, died Wednesday in Atlanta.

"Don Bosseler's talents helped the Miami football program achieve national prominence in the 1950s," National Football Foundation Chairman Archie Manning said in a release. "An All-American, he epitomized toughness, earning the nickname 'Bull,' and you can still find his name in the records books at the 'U' nearly 70 years later."

Bosseler was a first-round selection by Washington in 1957, drafted ninth overall that year, and rushed for



Don Bosseler, star fullback at the University of Miami, has signed a two year contract with the professional Washington Redskins, Feb. 8, 1957.

Associated Press

3,112 yards and 22 touchdowns in eight NFL seasons. He made the Pro Bowl in 1959.

Among those taken ahead of Bosseler in that 1957 draft: No. 1 pick Paul Hornung and No. 6 pick Jim Brown. Bosseler called them both after the draft to ask what they signed for, then secured a \$10,000 contract with a \$500 signing bonus from Washington.

"And in typical Don Bosseler

fashion, he came home with that \$500 and spent it all with his University of Miami teammate friends in one night," his son, Greg Bosseler, said Thursday. "I think they had a good time."

Don Bosseler played his high school football in Batavia, New York, near Buffalo, and was heavily recruited. He chose Miami, but nearly left after a couple weeks because he was homesick.

He packed his bags and headed to the train station. His roommate, fellow running back Don Dorshimer, called Miami coach Andy Gustafson with a message. "Bosseler's on the loose," Dorshimer said. Gustafson raced out of his house, got to the train station, found Bosseler and pleaded with him to come back for just one more day.

"And the rest is history," Greg Bosseler said.

The bags got unpacked. Bosseler led the team in rushing as a junior and senior, was a first-team AP All-American in 1956, picked as the outstanding player in Florida and was MVP of the Senior Bowl. One of his finest games was against the Florida Gators in 1956, when he led Miami to a 20-7 win.

"The Batavia, N.Y. bulldozer raced up 148 yards on the ground — 23 yards more than the entire Gator team — scored two touchdowns, intercepted one pass, recovered one fumble, was

impregnable on defense and quick kicked once for 47 yards," Fort Lauderdale News sports editor Joe Kolb wrote that day. "Is that All-America, or isn't it?"

Greg Bosseler wound up going to Florida and playing football for the Gators. Don Bosseler respected the decision, and father and son shared some laughs about it over the years.

"I was not anywhere near as talented as my father," Greg Bosseler said.

After football, Don Bosseler kept Miami as his home until the final years of his life when he moved to Atlanta. He was a successful stockbroker, went into the Miami Sports Hall of Fame in 1970 and the College Football Hall of Fame in 1990. His name is also part of the Hurricanes' ring of honor.

"After all this time, that people still recognize the name is certainly a treasured gift for all of us at this point," Greg Bosseler said. "My dad was my hero." □